

The Brooklyn Paper

Including Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, The Downtown News, DUMBO and Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper

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A-PARK-MENTS

Housing in Bridge Park shocks neighbors



NOT JUST PARK: New plans for Brooklyn Bridge Park include apartment complexes to go along with a restaurant, hotel and parkland. The height of the buildings is not reflected here.

By Jess Wisloski
and Neil Sloane
The Brooklyn Papers

Proponents of a planned park and commercial complex along the Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill and DUMBO waterfronts have long agreed that to get some green on Piers 1-6, the park itself will have to generate a lot of green, in the form of dollars.

But members of neighborhood groups along the 1.5-mile stretch of what is to become Brooklyn Bridge Park were largely dismayed over the past couple of weeks to find that, without their consultation, 730 units of co-op apartments had been added to the plan as one of the major revenue generators.

The threat of the privatization of the Brooklyn Heights waterfront was an impetus for creating the park plan, which dates back to the mid-1980s; one of the principles that guided the planning of the park for nearly 20 years had been that there would be no housing.

But on Dec. 22, in stark contrast to the public planning sessions and town hall-style meetings park planners held in 1999 and 2000, the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development

Corporation (BBPDC) presented to a select few community members a drastically revised park plan. That plan is expected to be put forth as the master plan for the park, to be considered under state environmental review, which will lead to pier property being turned over to the BBPDC by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The co-op apartments are planned to be built on two sites off Furman Street and Atlantic Avenue next to the massive 360 Furman St. building that the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society sold to a developer last year. That building, not part of the park plan, is expected to be developed into market-rate housing.

One of the Furman Street buildings, on the uplands of Pier 6, would be eight stories and, said BBPDC President Wendy Levenson, the other would be "significantly taller." One would contain 290 units and the shorter one 110.

Permanent housing would also be added to a hotel planned for Pier 1 at Fulton Ferry, according to the planners, and a roughly 12-story co-op would be built near Adams and John streets on Con Edison property adjacent to the Manhattan Bridge overpass.

See **HOUSING** on page 5



Made in Brooklyn

Audrey June O'Hare, the second baby to be born in Brooklyn in the new year, entered the world at 1:02 a.m. on Jan. 1 at Long Island College Hospital in Cobble Hill. All 7 pounds and 13 ounces of Audrey will live in Windsor Terrace with proud parents Kristy and Greg O'Hare. For more New Year's babies, see page 2.

Ikea wrecking ball smashes historic Beard St. buildings

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Red Hook preservationists were shocked this week when cranes on the site of a soon-to-be Ikea furniture store gouged into a complex of Civil War-era buildings on Beard Street, despite ongoing state and federal review of its historic significance.

Holding an impromptu press conference on Dec. 30 to address the demolition, officials with the Municipal Art Society along with area residents were joined by similarly upset representatives from the office of Rep. Nydia Velázquez in front of the five buildings between Dwight and Otsego streets. They blamed Swedish home-furnishings giant Ikea for the ruin.

The demolition equipment, which was poised mid-crunch before news



Building on Beard Street between Otsego and Dwight streets shows mid-demolition Tuesday. It will make way for an Ikea parking lot.

crews showed up, rolled away as a crowd gathered, but were back again on Tuesday to complete what had begun.

Meanwhile, the Municipal Art Society, a non-profit organization aimed at preserving cultural and neighborhood character, is speedily gathering their resources trying to figure out how to save what is left of the structures.

"Any federal agency that is going to do work has to engage in a well-defined procedure in determining whether historical buildings will be affected," said Brian Connolly, who has taken charge of resisting the demolition at the Erie Basin site. He referred to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

"This is not some arcane piece of legislation," Connolly said. "We're very disappointed that Ikea has tried to evade this process."

The preservation group is consid-

ering legal action against Ikea.

Ikea spokesmen said the property did not yet belong to the company, which gained city approval last year to build a \$70 million, 346,000-square-foot store on the 22-acre former New York Shipyard, between Dwight and Columbia streets along the Erie Basin. The company would also build 1,400 parking spaces, a public esplanade and additional retail space.

Ikea plans to open in 2007. Hearing Ikea's claim of not technically owning the property yet, Kent Barwickie, director of the Municipal Art Society, was quick to point out, "You can't pretend on one hand to be the owner for environmental review, and for federal applications, and not, on the other hand, for demolition."

The current owners, U.S. Dredging Corporation, which is in contract with more than just money.

From students in Carroll Gardens to gymnasts in Bay Ridge and DUMBO and a bowling alley in Bensonhurst, Brooklynites were so shaken by the devastation wrought by last week's earthquake and tsunami that donations, they said, hardly seemed like enough.

An outpouring of kindness has washed over the borough in the days after the disaster — which claimed more than 150,000 lives — hit ground on Dec. 26.

In Bay Ridge, Banana Leaf, a Malaysian restaurant, on Fourth Avenue at Bay Ridge Avenue, opened its doors on Tuesday with the express purpose of helping in the relief effort.

In Bensonhurst, the Maple

See **DEMOLISH** on page 4

Political pioneer Shirley Chisholm, 80

The Associated Press

Shirley Chisholm, a former Brooklyn schoolteacher who won a groundbreaking election to Congress in 1968, was hailed this week as a civil rights icon and dogged champion of women and blacks.

On Monday, two days after her death in Florida at age 80, Chisholm was recalled with particular poignancy by black and female lawmakers, as well as Brooklyn officials, who said

her contributions to American history were giant.

"All of Brooklyn mourns the passing of one of our proudest daughters, Shirley Chisholm, who embodied the spirit of our borough as wonderfully and completely as anyone," said Borough President Marty Markowitz. "Like Jackie Robinson before her, as the first African-American woman U.S. Representative and presidential candidate, Chisholm proved that Brooklyn is America's trailblazer when it comes to celebrating our dif-

ferences and fighting for equality among our nation's many peoples."

"Brooklynites will forever be inspired by her unwavering dedication to the American ideal of speaking best for the people by being of the people."

Chisholm ran for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1972, a campaign that was viewed as more symbolic than practical. She won 152 delegates before withdrawing from the race.

"I ran for the presidency, despite hopeless odds, to demonstrate the sheer will and refusal to accept the

status quo," Chisholm wrote in her book "The Good Fight." "The next time a woman runs, or a black, a Jew or anyone from a group that the country is 'not ready' to elect to its highest office, I believe that he or she will be taken seriously from the start."

Chisholm died Saturday near Daytona Beach. She had a series of small strokes last summer and her health had deteriorated gradually since then, said Willie Kimmons, her godson.

She had moved to Florida's northeast

See **CHISHOLM** on page 10



Shirley Chisholm

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Park Slopers rip Commerce Bank drive-thru plan

By Jess Wisloski

The Brooklyn Papers

Sometimes convenience

is a real nuisance. That's what a group of Park Slope residents are saying about plans by Commerce Bank, which bills itself as "America's Most Convenient Bank," to build a drive-through branch on Fifth Avenue at First Street.

The drive-through, they charge, will pose a danger to pedestrians and bicyclists — and they're not too hot on the bank's plan for an illuminated sign, either.

But elected officials and

Commerce Bank executives seemed caught off-guard by the sudden outcry from the fledgling organization Park Slope Neighbors, which sent an 1,100-signature petition to the bank's chairman and president, Vernon Hill.

Park Slope Neighbors founder Aaron Naparstek, a proponent of alternative forms of transportation to cars, characterized the grassroots organization as "a group of younger families living in the Slope between Fourth and Sixth Avenue" that was formed to address the Commerce Bank proposal.

"Some of us have known about it since the summer," said Naparstek, "but it didn't really come to public attention until recently."

Unsatisfied with the action being taken by the Park Slope Civic Council or Community Board 6, Naparstek said he spoke with other residents about forming a new group.

The Neighbors members hope to accomplish three things with respect to the bank plan: first, convince Commerce to get rid of the three-lane drive-through they have planned (hence eliminating a 29-foot curb cut); avoid having the standard glowing sign erected; and persuade the company to use the empty lot and two adjacent small apartment buildings they're planning to tear down to accommodate the drive-thru to instead to erect a building that could house a variety of commercial tenants.

"Fifth Avenue is a burgeoning shopping street," Naparstek said, calling it a good street for pedestrians and bikers. "This is the kind of development that has destroyed main streets across the country."

David Alquist, another Neighbors member, called the plan for a drive-through "pedestrian hostile" and said he imagined a better model

would be "more like the kind on Seventh Avenue, that are walk-up banks instead of drive-through banks."

Branches for Commerce Bank, which is based in Cherry Hill, N.J., have been multiplying along the East Coast the last couple of years. In 2003, the company opened branches in Brooklyn Heights, Windsor Terrace, Bensonhurst and Sheepshead Bay with plans to open 15 in Brooklyn by 2008.

Last summer, as plans for the Park Slope drive-through branch proceeded, Commerce Bank and Assemblywoman Joan Millman hosted a meeting at Borough Hall about the location in Park Slope.

At the meeting, said Cori Freedman, Millman's chief of staff, members of the First Street Block Association aired their concerns about the bank, which was to feature a brown, slated, McDonalds-style roof, and white-brick base along the entrance, that had been planned for First Street.

Residents also complained about the glowing sign that is common at Commerce Bank drive-throughs, as well as the planned landscaping.

Commerce Bank's representative at the meeting, Jack Rainey, vice president of governmental and community banking, vowed to change the color of the building from white to red brick, moved the entrance to Fifth Avenue and "changed some of the lighting," said Freedman.

"They basically just told the community they'd have input as to how it would be illuminated, in terms of the glowing sign, but didn't say it wouldn't be lit," she said.

But after the meeting, she thought the issue had blown over.

So did Rainey, who told The Brooklyn Papers this week that the bank was about

to present their finalized plans and start developing the lot for a July 2005 open date.

"We want to show everyone what it's going to look like," he said, adding that he will be setting up a presentation before CB6.

"Unfortunately, it's also past the midnight hour," Rainey said. "Everyone thought this was an old issue. Everyone was kind of surprised when this bubbled back up."

Rainey, who characterized his role as the "show and tell guy" said Commerce Bank of-

ficials felt they had very much taken to heart the community's concerns from the last meeting.

"First Street was very happy with our redesign, and very happy we came to the table willingly and met with them," he said.

Not so, claims Paul Heller, president of the First Street Block Association.

"Basically, we're not happy about it; we're very unhappy about it," said Heller.

"Are we happy there's not a drive-through on First Street? Yeah, we're happy about that,"

he said, but added that overall the issue of a car-oriented commercial establishment was still inappropriate.

"People are sort of resigned that they're going to build this, that they're a corporate steamroller, and we really can't do anything about it," Heller said, predicting that nobody would be chaining themselves to the lot in the face of literal steamrollers.

But, he added, "Basically they're repelled and disgusted by having such an ugly and inappropriate structure."



The Brooklyn Papers • Tim Colan

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Happy New Year, baby!

Shortly after fireworks lit up Grand Army Plaza (at left) Ruben Eastman Morgan (top left) made his debut at New York Methodist Hospital in Park Slope. Brooklyn's first baby of 2005 was born at 1:01 am to Ruben and Claudine Morgan, of Crown Heights. (Top right) mom Karen Haley and dad Keith Wilson, of Bushwick, admire their son, Keith Wilson III, born at 9:02 am at Lutheran Medical Center in Sunset Park.

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Beats Heights clerk for 3 cups

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

In the most bizarre lift of the year, a 21-year-old man in Brooklyn Heights did "forcibly remove" three plastic drinking cups from a small grocery on Dec. 30, after punching the shop owner in the face repeatedly, according to a police report.

It was nearing closing time for the shop on Clark Street between Henry and Hicks streets, when the young man came in at 10:50 pm.

The victim, 25, was working alone, when the man tried to remove the cups. He punched the

POLICE BLOTTER

storekeeper in the face several times. Police were called and quickly arrested a suspect. The cups were not recovered.

Shred trash

The identity of a Downtown Brooklyn man was stolen and \$3,700 was charged to a cell phone account opened in his name.

The victim, 59, told police he found out about the theft of his personal information when a collection agency contacted

him at his apartment on Adams Street near Tillary Street. He said he got the call on Dec. 31 at 12:40 pm.

The victim said the thief opened a Cingular Wireless account, using the man's Social Security number and date of birth, which he believes may have been obtained from trash outside his apartment building.

He didn't know when the account had been opened.

Livery assault

Three men jumped into a livery cab on the corner of Livingston and Smith streets in Downtown Brooklyn, and after demanding a ride, mugged their driver on Dec. 24.

The men approached the driver, 48, in his 1995 Lincoln Town Car while he was on the job and headed south on Smith Street.

The first man hopped into the front seat, while the other two got in the back. The first asked to be taken to Dean Street and New York Avenue, and then shouted, "Give me the money, what you have," as he punched the driver in the face several times, and searched the driver's pockets.

Meanwhile, the second man, sitting in the back seat, grabbed the victim from behind.

Another man in the back held down the glass partition

with his hands, to prevent the driver from raising it, shouting, "Give him the money, what you have, then you will go."

The three thugs fled in an unknown direction without taking anything.

Chain snatching

A jewelry thief posing as an interested customer made off with jewelry from a Schermerhorn Street pawn shop on Dec. 29 after asking for assistance from a clerk.

The clerk, 33, told police that she was assisting the man around noon inside the shop between Nevins Street and Third Avenue, and showing him a gold link necklace and cross pendant when the robber snatched the items without paying, and ran out of the store.

Fleeing south on Flatbush Avenue from Schermerhorn Street, the bandit's image was not captured, despite the presence of a surveillance camera in the store. The camera only got a shot of his torso.

The store owner valued the stolen items at \$3,269.

Eludes grasp

Approached by police in Vinegar Hill for an outstanding complaint against him, a man wended his way to freedom on Dec. 31 and got away.

The man, 44, was spotted near York and Gold streets at

noon. When the officers approached him, he responded by attacking both of them, flailing, punching and kicking at them.

Although one of the arresting officers hung on tight to the suspect, he eventually eluded his grasp. A police lieutenant was struck in the shoulder in the melee, and knocked to the ground.

The earlier complaint against the man was for an argument he allegedly been involved in on Nov. 21. According to the earlier report, the suspect got into an argument while having a beer with a friend. The suspect allegedly punched the friend about the face and head, causing a cut lip and swelling on the left side of his face and head.

Reveler's regret

Taking advantage of the annual fleeting moment in which the world shares a drunken stupor, a robber snatched a woman's purse from a Gowanus bar on New Year's

Evening sometime between 2:30 am and 4 am. He later may have used her house keys to break into her Brooklyn Heights apartment.

The victim reported the incident to police in the 84th Precinct at 2:10 pm on Jan. 1, after she awoke to find her place had been ransacked.

The pieced-together story told of a missing purse from the bar where she had partied, on Warren Street between Third and Fourth avenues, until 4 am. Though she did not notice that her purse — which contained her check book, insurance cards and house keys — was missing, the woman was able to get inside her home just the same.

But in the morning, or early afternoon, she discovered a black leather jacket, digital camera, DVD player, two suede jackets and \$400 in cash missing, the woman told police, estimating the loss at \$2,495. There was no apparent sign of a break in, police said.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court of NYC, County of Kings on the second day of September, 2004, bearing the Index Number 04027704, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in room 007, grants me the right, effective upon compliance with the provisions of this notice, to assume the name of **Stuart Martin Drach**. My present name is **Stuart M. Drach** and I was born on 10/20/64 in Brooklyn, NY. My present address is 1620 East 23rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229. My birth date is 10/14/64. **BP02**

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THE FINAL UN REFORM UPDATE?

Here is what we sincerely hope will be our final attempt to deduce from the symbolic bible book of Revelation the date of the expansion of the Permanent Membership of the UN Security Council (the Bears). We now think this day will be 2004Tebeth25 (January 10/11, 2005). For the reasoning behind our latest calculations please visit www.truebiblecode.com. Crudely speaking, 2004Tebeth25 is 42 months (1260 Biblical Lunar Calendar days) before 2008Tammuz25, which is the day that the UN is finally closed down. And this is 666 BLC days of Revelation 13 after Babylon the Great is destroyed (on 2006Elul19). And this is 1800 Biblical Lunar Calendar days of 1 Kings 18 (a day for a visible prophet, twice), after the prophetic end time context between the churches began pursuant to the tragedy of 911 (2001Elul19).

- The UN Security Council will expand to 10 permanent members in the Hebrew month of Tebeth (December 17th 2004 to January 16th 2005).
- The UN Security Council will expand to 10 permanent members on 2004Tebeth25 (January 10/11 2005).
- Kofi Annan will be replaced by the 8th Secretary General of the UN before or at the time of this expansion.
- The present 5 permanent members will agree a reduced veto or will give up their vetoes altogether at the time of this expansion (they will give their kingdoms to the beast of Revelation 17).

This therefore concludes the 24th amendment to the UN reform report of the Lord's Witnesses!

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Holds onto bag

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Aggressive muggers trying to rob a woman on Carroll Street Dec. 27 fled empty-handed after she put up a good fight.

The woman, 44, told police that as she headed home at 7 pm., she was approached from behind and tackled between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

"Give me your bag!" insisted the first attacker, while a second one pushed her to the ground and tried to yank her bag away. Instead of acquiescing, she screamed for help, and clung tight to her belongings.

A witness told police that a third man also tried to get her bag away, but as the commotion grew, the three muggers fled the scene without the bag, running eastbound on Carroll and then northbound on Sixth.

No good deed...

Taking advantage of a Good Samaritan, a bad Brooklynite robbed an elderly Park Slope woman the morning of Dec. 30 as she was giving him directions to the train.

The woman, 69, said she had just bought a newspaper at 11 am from her local newsstand on the corner of St. Mark's Place and Fifth Avenue.

When she stepped outside, the man asked her for directions to the subway.

"Which way to the Atlantic Avenue? I need to catch the F train," the man said. As she started to answer, he shoved her against a nearby car, and went into her pocket, ripping her coat.

Pulling out a fist full of her cash — \$22 — and house keys, he fled westbound toward Fourth Avenue.

Pre-midnight mug

A stranger robbed a Park Slope man, 32, at gunpoint on Dean Street between Fifth and Flatbush avenues at 9:50 pm on New Year's Eve.

"Give me everything," demanded the mugger, as he held a black, 9-mm pistol to the victim's abdomen.

The mugger took \$250 from the man, police said, and fled towards Fifth Avenue.

Immediately following the incident, the victim went to the 78th Precinct and reported the incident. He described his assailant as about 6 feet tall and 170 pounds, with a short hair cut, wearing brown work boots, a black cap and brown overcoat.

POLICE

Shocking haul

Enterprising burglars busted into a Con Edison building on Dec. 23, entering transformer vaults and stealing copper wire from the site on Ninth Street between Second Avenue and the Gowanus Canal.

The employee who discovered the crime, 37, said the wire-loving bandits broke the locks to the vaults and stole about 600 pounds of cable, worth \$1,500.

While they were cutting the high voltage wire, the employee suggested, the greedy grifters may have been shocked by electricity, therefore a canvass of the area included searching all of the hospitals. No suspects turned up, though, according to police.

Knife-point rob

Holding them at knife-point, robbers confronted and robbed two young teenagers walking home from a video store on Dec. 27.

The boys were walking down St. Mark's Place between Fifth and Sixth avenues at midnight when they were mugged.

Fearing for his life, one of the boys, 13, gave up the only property he had on him, a cellular phone worth \$60. The boy's friend, 14, said he, too, was frightened, but had nothing to surrender.

The two robbers took off on foot eastbound on St. Mark's Place.

Additionally, a footprint on the roof was found in some shallow snow.

Joy ride

A crafty car thief plied his nefarious trade simply by walking into a Gowanus auto repair shop on Dec. 27 and casually hopping into, and taking off with, a 1997 Lincoln Town Car that was in for repairs.

A friend of the car's owner noticed at 1 pm that while he was inside the auto repair shop on Ninth Street between Third and Fourth avenues, he saw a man with dark eyeglasses enter his friend's car, which he had been driving, and pulled off in it.

The friend, 23, called the car's owner, 29, along with the police. But on completion of a canvass, the friend found that the car had been abandoned on 39th Street and 10th Avenue, with no items missing from the car.

Maybe the thief discovered it needed too much work.

Roof entry

A burglar hit a Park Slope apartment on Dec. 28 while the occupant was at work.

The victim told police he'd left his apartment, on Eighth Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues, at 8:10 am, and returned at 6:40 pm to find his digital camera missing. He noticed the front door was unlocked when he got home, and told police the apartment had been ransacked.

The victim reported the camera to be worth about \$200.

A police canvass revealed the point of entry may have been a rear window of the apartment, which had been left unlocked.

Additionally, a footprint on the roof was found in some shallow snow.

Thought about getting braces?

Sophia L. Scantlebury, D.D.S., M.S.
10 Plaza St., Suite 1H, Brooklyn

Dr. Sophia Scantlebury recently opened her private orthodontic practice at 10 Plaza St. Brooklyn, bringing to the area a modern and refreshingly friendly approach to orthodontics.

Dr. Scantlebury received her dental degree from Columbia University in New York, where she was a Dean's scholar, and a recipient of the Percy T. Phillips Scholarship for Academic Excellence. She then completed a three-year residency to specialize in orthodontics at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Since graduation Dr. Scantlebury has been practicing as an orthodontic associate and is currently a clinical professor at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn.

With Dr. Scantlebury's experience and education, she presents her patients with the latest in orthodontic technology in a comfortable, relaxed setting. Rather than giving her patients long confusing technical explanation of orthodontic treatment, Dr. Scantlebury helps her patients visualize their problem by showing them digital images of their mouth and by utilizing a computer software program that shows them the recommended appliances and treatment. Each patient receives a color printout of his or her digital images, along with an explanation of the individual's orthodontic needs.

Dr. Scantlebury treats children as well as adults. She points out the growing number of adults who are seeking to correct irregularities in their teeth. "With the decrease in treatment time, lighter and gentler wires, increased aesthetics of braces and invisible braces, orthodontic care has become increasingly popular for adults. It has also become much more affordable due to flexible payment options available."

Dr. Scantlebury's office is conveniently located at Grand Army Plaza making it accessible to Park Slope and Prospect Heights and to other neighborhoods by the 2 and 3 trains.

You may call 718-230-5046 to make an appointment. Saturdays are also available.



The opening of Dr. Scantlebury's practice is the fulfillment of a dream she has had since childhood. "It is tremendously fulfilling to be able to create a beautiful smile for a patient and, in turn, help them feel better about themselves."

Dr. Scantlebury treats children as well as adults. She points out the growing number of adults who are seeking to correct irregularities in their teeth. "With the decrease in treatment time, lighter and gentler wires, increased aesthetics of braces and invisible braces, orthodontic care has become increasingly popular for adults. It has also become much more affordable due to flexible payment options available."

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Slope Pavilion sold to digital movie chain

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A New Jersey company that specializes in digital cinema technology has agreed to purchase the Pavilion multiplex movie theater, restaurant and nightclub complex in Park Slope, the company announced.

Screen Arts Corp. will sell the 1926 Art Deco building on Prospect Park at 15th Street that it acquired nine years ago to Access Integrated

Technologies for \$5 million, including \$3.3 million in cash. The sale is to be completed later this month. The purchase price includes a \$1.7 million, five-year note, Access IT said in a press release.

Access IT's president and CEO, Bud Mayo, founded the Clearview Cinema chain. In the release, the company promised to bring "state-of-the-art digital film delivery" to the Park Slope entertainment complex and expand the eight-screen multiplex to include a

ninth screen while maintaining similar interior decor and presenting the same types of movies, which have been a mix of independents, blockbusters and children's movies. "The expansion has already begun," said Suzanne Tregenza, a spokeswoman for Access IT, who said the ninth screen would be built in part of what is currently a courtyard.

"There will be no interior construction or down-time on any of the screens," assured Tregenza, who said the changes

might be entirely unnoticeable, except to people who had not yet experienced digital cinema delivery, which she explained, happens by way of computer hard drives, or in Access IT's case, mostly satellite beaming.

The company first started providing digital delivery of movies last July. The Park Slope site will be the first multiplex to have the company's "Theater Command Center," which allows theater operators to create a library of movies,

trailers and advertising for future playback and with no film reels.

"We are tremendously excited about obtaining a fully operational showcase at the Pavilion for our unique set of full-service digital cinema solutions," said Mayo.

Though a spokesman from Screen Arts was hesitant to confirm any agreements with Access IT, he acknowledged that talks had been ongoing to sell the theater.

"We've been in negotiations with several entities in regards

to possible sale of the [Park Slope] theater," said Bob Adams, speaking for the president and founder of Screen Arts, Norman Adie. He anticipated completion of the sale by the second week of January.

Adie bought the former Sanders Theater in 1992 and after an extensive reconstruction he reopened it as the Pavilion in 1996 with three theaters. Expansion soon followed. Within two years the theater had seven screens from two separate expansions.

In 2001, Adie bought both the struggling Brooklyn Heights Cinema, on Henry Street at Pineapple Street, and the crumbling Plaza Twin Cinema, on Flatbush Avenue near Seventh Avenue, and turned both around. But last year, Adie closed the Flatbush Pavilion after a rent dispute with that building's owner.

When the Flatbush Pavilion closed last May, suspicions that the company was going out of business arose, but Screen Arts spokesmen denied those ru-

mors, and continued to say this week that they were financially sound, and had no plans to sell the Brooklyn Heights theater.

A manager at the Brooklyn Heights Pavilion told The Brooklyn Papers she had not heard any talk about a sale of the theater.

"We're in the process of building three other theaters throughout New York and Long Island," said Screen Arts spokesman Adams, who would not say if Adie planned to look for new space in Brooklyn.

DEMOLISH...

Continued from page 1

sold the property to Ikea, applied for the demolition permits in early December.

Asked to comment on the demolition of the potentially

historic buildings, U.S. Dredging executive Michael Gallagher said, "I have nothing to say."

According to the city departments of Buildings and

City Planning, neither agency has jurisdiction in preventing the demolition.

"There is nothing the Department of Buildings can do," said Kenneth Lazar, a Brooklyn liaison for the Buildings Department. He said the agency "had no reason to reject the [demolition]

permit," which was issued Dec. 7.

Dyke Fink, a Buildings Department spokeswoman, added, "State and national review is not meaningful," and explained that for the city to take action the property has to be a city landmark or under consideration by the city Landmarks Preservation Commission.

"Even a [state or federal] landmark can be demolished," said Fink, adding that it happens quite often.

The Department of City Planning, which signed on as lead governmental agency on Ikea's city land use application, said through a spokeswoman that although a draft Memorandum of Agreement between the state's Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — which oversees all port development and waterway activity and must issue permits for Ikea to build on the site — was in the works, it had not yet been finalized.

"Structures were determined in our environmental review to be eligible for the National Historical Registry, and the state's," said City Planning spokeswoman Jen Parsons. She said it was her agency's understanding that historic mitigation was being looked into.

That mitigation, said Cathy Jimenez, a spokeswoman for the state Historic Preservation Officer, never materialized.

"It was determined that, yes, the property was historically significant. We've been



Crane hoovers over Civil War-era building part-way through its demolition by Ikea on Tuesday.

working with Ikea over the past two or three years to basically preserve the historical characteristics of the buildings," Jimenez said.

Her department signed on to a Memorandum of Understanding, which then went to the Army Corps of Engineers,

but, she added, "it's up to [the Army Corps] to authorize the permit."

But Richard Toner, chief of the Regulatory Branch of the New York District of the Army Corps of Engineers, told The Brooklyn Papers that Ikea never received permission to

start work.

"Their application is incomplete, meaning they did not get a 'go ahead' to work on the project," Toner said. He said he was concerned that if the buildings were demolished, "we wouldn't be able to complete the process."

Ikea told the Army Corps that the Beard Street building was "an immediate hazard," said Army Corps spokesman Peter Shugart. In response, the Army Corps requested, in a letter both faxed and sent to Ikea, a cease of work until they could determine whose jurisdiction the issue fell under, as well as evidence of what made the building hazardous.

Shugart added, "It's about due process; they need to follow due process, and that's what we're trying to protect here."

"That letter [from the Corps] was a product of our efforts to basically enforce Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act," said Dan Wiley, a spokesman for Congresswoman Velazquez.

"Now the question is enforcement — not those dictated by any other party. Bob Capano's record with Democratic Party Markowitz clearly demonstrates that he can appeal to people across party lines in a general election. As a state legislator with the 68th Precinct Community Council and professor of Political Science, he also has the community and education record to represent us well."

Pat Russo is a nice guy, but he ran on three lines — Republican, Conservative and Independence — in 2003 and still lost by a wide margin. It's time for a candidate who can and will win. I am confident the Brooklyn Republican Party will take the lead in selecting this candidate. Hopefully the Conservative Party will join in this winning effort as well.

— *Luke Vander Linden, Brooklyn Young Republican Club*

Xmas traffic warns of coming Atlantic mess

To the editor:

I have seen the future for Downtown Brooklyn and it is now!

On Friday afternoon, Christmas Eve, not a car was moving within a quarter mile of Atlantic Center. It took me one hour to get around one block. Admittedly, it was a special day. However, it was a clear demonstration that the streets of Downtown Brooklyn, especially the Atlantic Center crossroads, cannot handle the doubling of traffic that will result from the 33 million square feet of development that has been approved or is under construction and the 8 million square feet proposed for the very epicenter at Atlantic Yards.

It was a dramatic warning that the Downtown Brooklyn Transportation Blueprint and the Atlantic Yards EIS will need to advance bold measures, like East River bridge tolls and restructuring the street network, to avoid paralyzing gridlock 365 days a year.

— *Brian T. Ketchum, Traffic engineer, Cobble Hill*

Capano choice of Young Repub

To the editor:

In the Dec. 25 article headlined "Sources: Capano to quit Boro Hall post," the chairman of the Kings County Conservative Party, Jerry Kasar, indicated he will "likely" endorse Pat Russo should Russo decide to run for City Council — primarily because of his "showing" in 2003.

As president of the Brooklyn Young Republican Club, I strongly urge the Conservative Party to give due consideration to life-long Republican and long-time senior advisor to Borough President Marty Markowitz, my friend Bob Capano.

However, whatever the Conservative Party decides, the Republican Party must be guided by what we believe is the best person for the job and who gives us the best chance to win.

LETTERS

We must choose our own candidates — not those dictated by any other party. Bob Capano's record with Democratic Party Markowitz clearly demonstrates that he can appeal to people across party lines in a general election. As a state legislator with the 68th Precinct Community Council and professor of Political Science, he also has the community and education record to represent us well.

Pat Russo is a nice guy, but he ran on three lines — Republican, Conservative and Independence — in 2003 and still lost by a wide margin. It's time for a candidate who can and will win. I am confident the Brooklyn Republican Party will take the lead in selecting this candidate. Hopefully the Conservative Party will join in this winning effort as well.

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TSUNAMI...

Continued from page 1

Lanes bowing away, at 1570 60th St., will host a gathering in conjunction with local resident Maria Campanella, better known as the "Ice Cream Girl." The event, scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 30, from noon to 6 p.m., will feature karaoke and ice cream sundae donated by Peaches & Cream cafe at 436 Myrtle Ave. in Fort Greene.

The day's proceeds, including a \$5 entry fee, will go to the Red Cross.

"I'm devastated," said Campanella. "I'm heartbroken. Every time I turn on my computer, it's gotten worse. I'm devastated."

Choosing not just to raise money but also to discuss the tragedy, students at PS 146 in Carroll Gardens will gather at an afternoon town hall meeting at the school at 610 Henry St. Principal Anna Allanbrook said that the idea was to get children thinking about the significance of such a tragedy and talk about how they could help individually. The discussion will be hosted by the school's 75 fifth graders,

each of whom have been assigned to research the areas hit by the tsunami and the tsunami itself.

In addition, said Allanbrook, students will be going from classroom to classroom asking for pennies and bottles for recycling from their peers.

"We're just trying to get them to be conscious of what's happened," said Allanbrook, who said students at the school are regularly encouraged to get involved in charitable causes. "We just want to get at that idea that everyone can help."

In Brooklyn Heights, Rabbi Aaron Raskin of Congregation B'nai Avraham encouraged congregants to contribute to Chabad of Thailand.

Chabad rabbis in Thailand, affiliated with the Crown Heights-based Lubavitch sect of Orthodox Jews, were mobilized to offer assistance immediately after the tsunami hit, according to JewishThailand.com web site.

Rabbi Nehemya Wilhelm of Bangkok rushed to hardy Pinkeet, the Web site said.

These are just a few of countless tsunami relief efforts that will be going on. Check with your favorite establishment or organization to find out what they are doing.

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hazardous, and provided to The Papers a copy of an engineer's statement, dated Dec. 15, 2004, by a structural engineer named Victor A. Gordon. Though the letter bore a State of New York stamp proving his license, and was typed on letterhead, the phone number for Gordon was disconnected, and a fax number went to a private answering machine. A message left on the answering machine seeking comment was not returned.

Ikea spokeswoman Jamie Van Bramer told The Papers the engineer conducted the review for Ikea, as an evaluation. He would not respond to changes that Ikea was evading the state and national historical review processes.

Connolly pointed out that the Municipal Art Society had no strong feelings about Ikea itself.

"We are not dogmatically opposed to the Ikea project; the two can coexist," he said. But Red Hookers who have opposed Ikea from the get-go used this week's demolition as an opportunity to reiterate their position.

"An awful lot of people in Red Hook have been deceived by this project," said John McGettrick, president of the Red Hook Civic Association. "This basically constitutes an end-run around the regulatory process. An illegal end-run."

Red Hook Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez, on the other hand, who championed the Ikea project, appears to support the demolition.

"She is not going to renege on a commitment she made to the whole idea of a compact," said her spokesman, Felix Palacios.

"She's completely convinced that what she did, that whatever needs to be done to bring about this project, needs to be done," he added. "She's in complete agreement with bringing Ikea to Brooklyn."

That did not sit well with McGettrick.

"I am hoping, as more information becomes available, that [Gonzalez] will reconsider," he said.

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BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK...



An artist's rendering of the floating walkway and boating channel at Pier 3 in the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park.

For more views of the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park, visit www.brooklynpapers.com

Continued from page 1

The hotel would contain 150 units of the housing and the Con Ed site would contain 180 co-ops.

"All we want is a park that we can afford, and that we can use, that's fair to all the communities involved," said Sloan.

Exchequer the "guiding principles" formed years ago by Brooklyn Heights residents that said housing should not be built on the 80-acre site became necessary, said Leventer, to create enough revenue to maintain the park after it was determined that piers 2-6 could not be rehabilitated to hold structures based on the park's budget. "We tried to keep as much parkland as possible," she said.

Leventer said that only 10 percent of the land is being developed commercially or residentially. She said planners considered other revenue-generating ideas to meet the \$15.5 million maintenance costs of park operations, including parking facilities, box stores and mail-like complexes, among other ideas.

Van Valkenburg pointed out there wasn't much else that could be developed there without hampering the view from the Brooklyn Heights promenade, which is protected as a landmark. Commercial developments planned for the Empire Stores warehouses (which will be developed into a Chelsea Market-like mall by Shaya Boylme) along Water Street at Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park in DUMBO, could not

generate enough revenue to sustain the park, he said.

"I would say this is more difficult than any park designers have ever undertaken before," the landscape architect said, adding that the design could set a national precedent.

"When we show the world how to do this its going to be a paradigm shift," Van Valkenburg predicted.

But for the hundreds of local residents who have closely watched the plans evolve over the years, the shift isn't necessarily a welcome one.

"There are reasons why the consensus at the time was against housing on the site," said Brooklyn Heights resident Tony Mannheim, founder of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Coalition, a precursor to the BBPC. "It doesn't mean we hate housing or that housing is evil, but there are complications that come in when you build in the park."

"For one thing," he said, "it privatizes the site. Also, it's easy to build extra floors when costs go up — and then, what are you going to do about affordable housing? It isn't the best way to use public property, and it doesn't exactly create many jobs."

The fact that the plans were published in the New York Times on Dec. 23, only one day after the meeting with the select residents of Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens, did not bode well either.

Sandy Balbora, president of the Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association, said she'd thought up until the Dec. 22 meeting that she was attending a working session, with the planners "obtaining input from the community group. Instead, it turned out to be a PowerPoint presentation with a completed model."

Balbora said she remained hopeful that it was just a mistake, and that plans were not finalized. She added, though, that one of the co-op buildings near Atlantic Avenue, judging by the model, appeared to block the water's view from Atlantic Avenue.

"That would be very distressing," she said. "I'm hopeful that this is a misunderstanding and we will have future meetings and we will be able to have the discussion about the uses of Pier 6, and they will have input from the community that this will impact."

Both community boards affected have been completely left out of the presentation process. Robert Parris, district manager of Community Board 2, which includes the Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO portions of the plan, confirmed he had not seen the new plans, or heard from Leventer since her appearance at a board meeting in September.

"It seems like they're unveiling it to small groups of people," he said, noting that a presentation by the park planners was not on the board's agenda for January.

Craig Hammerman, district manager of Community Board 6, which borders Atlantic Avenue, shared concern about the lack of board input, especially regarding the use of Pier 6, which was added to the park plan last year.

"We believed there should be a public planning process," he said. "From the limited information we've been getting it seems like a planning process has been taking place, but one that is far from a public process."

Judy Stanton, executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Association, said that while she has seen the new plans, most members of her organization had not.

Still, she did not share the notion of housing, which her group has historically rejected. "If there must be housing — which I'm not willing to reject provided the rationale is sound — then it's how much housing does there have to be and where?" she said. "The sooner they have a public meeting the better."

Said Mannheim, "[Housing] privatizes the site. The people who are living there and paying the park fees become resentful about the 'unwashed masses' using their parkland. That's exactly what happened in Battery Park City. This is a big problem; it's a lot more serious than hawks on Fifth Avenue."



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UPCOMING SEMINARS

Brooklyn-Brooklyn Hts. January 11, 9:30 AM Junior's Restaurant 386 Flatbush Ave. Corner of DeKalb Ave.	Brooklyn-Bay Ridge January 12, 9:00 AM Tiffany Diner 9904 4th Ave. Cross St./99th St.	Brooklyn January 14, 10:00 AM Arch Diner 1866 Ralph Ave. Corner of Flatlands	Brooklyn January 18, 9:30 AM Perry's Restaurant 3482 Nostrand Ave. Btwn. Ave. U & V	Brooklyn January 20, 9:00 AM Mirage Diner 717 Kings Hwy. Cross St./E. 8th St.
Brooklyn January 21, 10:30 AM Castillo Rest. (Bi-Lingual) 54-55 Myrtle Ave. Corner of St. Nicholas Ave.	Brooklyn January 25, 9:00 AM Del Rio Diner 166 Kings Hwy. Cross St./W. 12th St.	Brooklyn January 31, 10:00 AM Vegas Diner 1619 86th St. Cross St./16th Ave.	Brooklyn-Sunset Park February 8, 9:00 AM George's Rest. (Bi-Lingual) 5701 5th Ave. Cross St./57th St.	Brooklyn-Brooklyn Hts. February 9, 9:30 AM Junior's Restaurant 386 Flatbush Ave. Corner of DeKalb Ave.
Brooklyn February 15, 9:00 AM Del Rio Diner 166 Kings Hwy. Cross St./W. 12th St.	Brooklyn-Bay Ridge February 16, 9:00 AM Tiffany Diner 9904 4th Ave. Cross St./99th St.	Brooklyn February 21, 6:00 PM Vegas Diner 1619 86th St. Cross St./16th Ave.	Brooklyn February 22, 9:00 AM Mirage Diner 717 Kings Hwy. Cross St./E. 8th St.	Brooklyn February 23, 10:00 AM Arch Diner 1866 Ralph Ave. Corner of Flatlands
Brooklyn February 25, 9:00 AM Kings Plaza Diner 4124 Avenue U Corner of Hendrickson	Brooklyn February 28, 10:00 AM Vegas Diner 1619 86th St. Cross St./16th Ave.			

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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

January 8, 2005

Curious Kitty

Florey's latest book puts spotlight on word-obsessed Williamsburgers

By Ajla Grozdanic
for The Brooklyn Papers

Emily Lime is walking up Bedford Avenue. She is wearing black jeans and a long-sleeved black T-shirt that just covers the blue zipper tattooed on her wrist. "The tattoo is something she deeply regrets."

And so begins the story of Emily Lime, struggling photographer, Williamsburg resident and the heroine of "Solos," the latest novel by Kitty Burns Florey.

Published by Berkley Books in August, "Solos" is as much an ode to the Brooklyn neighborhood known for its artistically inclined residents as it is about a few of the characters that inhabit it. Williamsburg was the author's first New York home and her present address is only minutes away, in Greenpoint, where she lives with her second husband, painter Ron Savage, to whom her new book is dedicated.

"These are two of the most quirky and lovable neighborhoods in the city, and I tried to do justice to them in 'Solos,'" Florey posted on her Web site, KittyBurns-Florey.com.

Just as quirky and lovable are Florey's characters: animal-loving, word-obsessed and realistically depicted Williamsburgers. And these are not the 20-something hipsters that first came to mind at the mere mention of the 11211 ZIP code. Instead, Florey zeros in on a side of Williamsburg overshadowed by the neighborhood's hype.

"Solos" captures the essence of the community — a combination of antique and modern, young and old, Polish immigrants, artists, dentists, landlords and dog walkers. It's similar to the Williamsburg the author fell in love with when she first moved there 10 years ago.

"I wanted to write about the sense of community and how people depend on each other," Florey told GO Brooklyn. "I wanted to get across that they're a truly tight group."

The protagonist of "Solos," Emily Lime, is a 36-year-old divorcee, who lives in a humble loft on the fifth floor of a converted space factory with her dog, Otto, and her cokerati, Izzy. Lacking success in matters of both romance and finance, Emily finds comfort in the company of her pets, her friends and especially her dog sitter, Marcus Mead.

The idea for "Solos" came to Florey when she was walking down the street on the way to her day job at Muzie Inc., where she works as senior fiction editor.

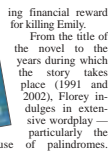
"There were a bunch of dogs looking and waiting [in front of a coffee shop] for the dog walker," Florey said. She was amazed at and amused by the bond between the dog walker and the group of dogs he takes care of.

Emily and Marcus — both proud of their ZIP code — share an almost compulsive obsession with words and word games; they have frequent Scrabble dates and use palindromes in casual conversation. Throughout the course of the novel, it becomes evident that the two main characters not only share a love of words but also a secret love for one another.

But a series of obstacles stand in their way. Aside from being 16 years her junior and the son of Emily's ex-husband, Marcus appears to be asexual. To make matters worse, his father promises Marcus a tempt-



'Solos' endeavor: With her eighth novel, "Solos," Greenpoint author Kitty Burns Florey exposes her affection for Williamsburg and its artistic community.



ing financial reward for killing Emily. From the title of the novel to the years during which the story takes place (1991 and 2002), Florey indulges in extensive wordplay — particularly the use of palindromes.

While some of the palindromes, like the chapter headings "Step on no pets" and "He lived as a devil, eh?," were gleaned from Web sites like www.palindromes.org and www.wordways.com, the main character's name, Emily Lime, was Florey's own invention.

"I was very proud of myself for thinking that one up," said Florey. But her primary interest lies in people. She says she is amazed by the fact that so many different individuals live in the same city.

"I am very interested in creating characters," said Florey. "I've created characters that come alive, then I know that I have succeeded."

Fellow writer and Florey friend Jane Schwartz told GO Brooklyn, "There's just a humanness in her characters that is missing in most contemporary works." Schwartz is particularly impressed with Florey's "observation of the neighborhood [in 'Solos'] and how people meet and judge each other."

There seem to be bits and pieces of Florey scattered throughout "Solos" — starting with Emily's loft. That irresistible view of the Manhattan skyline from the converted space factory lured the author to Brooklyn from New Haven, Conn.

Like Emily, the author had a friend who lived in the neighborhood and who intro-

BOOKS

"Solos" by Kitty Burns Florey (Berkley Books, \$14) is available at, or can be ordered through, The Bookmark Shoppe (606 11th Ave. at 69th Street in Dyker Heights) (718) 689-3680, BookCourt (152 Court St. at Dean Street in Cobble Hill) (718) 875-3671 and Barnes & Noble (267 Seventh Ave. at South Street in Park Slope) (718) 832-9066.

duced her to "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" territory," as Florey calls it. That friend was Judith Maniatis, a Williamsburger since 1982, whom the author occasionally consulted when she was creating her setting for "Solos." And like Emily, Florey has a soft spot for animals.

"Kitty is weak about her cats," Maniatis told GO Brooklyn.

Traces of Florey come through in other characters as well. Marcus is not the only New York Times crossword puzzle ace with a phonebook fetish.

"[Kitty] does crosswords in ink, just to let you know," said Maniatis of her author friend who uses the phone book as a source of interesting names for characters.

According to her biggest fan, her only child, Katherine, a recent law school graduate, Florey is a "public writer," open to ideas and input from others.

"When she would write about a younger person she would ask me for details like what kind of music they listen to," said Katherine.

Katherine recalls her mother's long morning walks around the neighborhood, when she would think about her writing and get inspiration.

"She would notice detail other people do not see," she said. When it comes to her writing style, Katherine describes her mother as a very disciplined.

"Normally, she's a nine-to-five kind of writer," Katherine said.

When Florey, who was born an only child in upstate Syracuse, NY, was asked at the age of 8 or 9 what she wanted to be when she grew up, she answered: "a writer." Today, at the age of 61, Florey says it is her compulsion to turn things into fiction. When she sees people on the subway, Florey says, she imagines what their lives could be like.

"I can't not write. I write all the time," she said.

Florey writes daily in her diary, which she has kept since she was 10 years old.

"I am an obsessive writer and I have a bad memory, so a diary is very useful," she said. "It's also good for winning arguments."

"Solos" is Florey's eighth published novel; others include "Souvenir of Cold Springs" (Counterpoint Press, 2001) and "Five Questions" (Time-Warner Books, 2001). So that she doesn't "start from nothing," Florey has a "new book" file where she places notes about things she sees or hears, like phrases, quotes or people's names and descriptions.

"Your ears might show up in a book one day," she said. "You never know."

Florey, who says she does not watch television and reads every chance she gets, says that she wakes up every morning looking forward to what the day will bring.

"I produce more words every year than I probably should, in the form of books, diaries, e-mails, letters and essays," said the writer, who finds it difficult to experience something without wanting to write about it.

"I'm some kind of combination of a very practical, focused, hard-working person and a daydreaming layabout and lazy good-for-nothing," Florey said. "Maybe this is what a writer needs to be!"

BOOKS

Book buffet

On Jan. 13, the Brooklyn Academy of Music will kick off the first of what it hopes will be many series of visits by authors to its BAM Café.

BAM Executive Producer Joseph Melillo has partnered with the National Book Foundation to bring an impressive literary lineup to Fort Greene: Rick Moody (pictured) on Jan. 13, Paul Auster on Feb. 10, Walter Mosley on March 10, Bumpus Lahti on April 14, Joyce Carol Oates on May 12 and Edward P. Jones on June 9.

It is all about making BAM a destination for various different people who have a range of interests," Melillo told GO Brooklyn.

What sets BAM's series apart from other author readings in Brooklyn is its convivial nature, explained Melillo.

"We'll have food and beverages and live musicians during the dinner program [beginning at 6:30 pm], and [at 8 pm] a reading by the author, then a host — Wendy Wasserstein or [Rolling Stone contributing editor and CNN pop culture commentator] Tame — who will have an interview with the writer, then open it up for a Q&A and book signing," said Melillo.

At \$38 per person for the reading, buffet dinner, wine, tax and tip, organizers also hope attendees will have cash left over to spring for an autographed tome.

"Our aim is to make it accessible," said Melillo. "You want people to have this experience. You don't want to be prohibitive, and it's very accessible in terms of price."

The unifying theme among the authors is that they are American.

"Our partner, the National Book Foundation, services American authors and promotes reading and an appreciation of great American literature," said Melillo. "They have an extraordinary education outreach program... so we're an extension of their mission, and that's why they wanted to partner with us."

On Thursday, Moody, author of the "Demology" short story collection and the novels "The Ice Storm" and "Garden State," will kick off the "Eat, Drink and Be Literary" series with moderator Wasserstein.

A 20-percent discount (available via phone purchase only) is applicable for those who buy tickets to all six events. For tickets, call (718) 636-4100 or visit the BAM Web site at www.bam.org or the BAM box office (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place).

—Lisa J. Curtis

ART

Feather fancy

"Susan Homer: A Bird's Tale" opens at Metaphor Contemporary Art in Boerum Hill on Jan. 12, with a reception from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Homer references elements drawn from her rooftop garden, Audubon prints, china patterns and Victorian greeting cards, among other inspirations in making her large-scale oil paintings. Her "Wren Tea," oil on canvas is pictured.

Also opening on Wednesday is Lauren Cohen's "New York Feathers," an installation of trompe l'oeil miniature paintings of a single floating feather.

The gallery is located at 382 Atlantic Ave. between Hoyt and Bond streets in Boerum Hill. Regular gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, from noon to 6 pm. For more information, call (718) 254-9126 or visit www.metaphorcontemporaryart.com.

—Lisa J. Curtis

THEATER

'Angels' in Hts

The Heights Players are taking the unprecedented step of Kushner's multi-award-winning "Angels in America."

"Millennium Approaches" will run Jan. 7, 8, 13 and 14, at 8 pm, and Jan. 9, at 2 pm. "Perestroika" will run Jan. 15, 21 and 22, at 8 pm, and Jan. 16 and 23, at 2 pm. Robert Weinstein, who directs the show, told GO Brooklyn he was happy to accept the challenge.

"My passion is to do theater," he said. "The size of this project creates a bigger challenge, which I welcome more and more."

Calling Kushner's epic "one of the greatest plays ever written in the modern era," Weinstein went on to explain that he "couldn't honestly imagine telling only half of the story... I wouldn't be doing the playwright justice."

Considered a turning point in gay drama, "Angels in America" presents more than 30 characters in eight acts. But the basic story is about two couples whose relationships are disintegrating. Their stories are told amid the turmoil of the 1980s, when AIDS was first revealing itself.

"It's a story of unparalleled beauty, drama, sadness and hope," said Weinstein, who also believes it is "as important to play today as when it came out in 1991."

"Not much has changed in our world in its political and social climate," he explained. "All the same narrow-mindedness and bigotry are still prevalent in America. All the issues the play covers are still at crisis levels today."

The Heights Players Theater is located at 26 Willow Place at State Street in Brooklyn Heights. Tickets for each show are \$12, \$18 seniors and students. For reservations, call (718) 237-2752.

—Paulanne Simmons

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Whistle while you work

Steve 'The Whistler' Herbst finds solace in a 'lost' art form

By Chiara V. Cowan
for The Brooklyn Papers

When Steve Herbst was a young boy living in Flatbush he whistled all the way to school. After school, he shut his door and whistled along to the sounds of Sergei Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" blaring from his record player while imitating the various instruments representative of different characters.

Amazingly, Herbst's family did not know about the magnitude of his whistling talent until just a few years ago, when he officially became Steve "The Whistler" Herbst, International Grand Champion of Whistling.

Now, at age 58, he lives his life much the same as he did when he was a boy, practicing what he calls the "lost art" of whistling while walking his dogs or on long car rides in the country. (His license plate reads "WHISTLER.")

Only today, Herbst's rare skill has attracted a following; he gets fan letters from across the globe. He has whistled background music in television commercials and performed with guitar great Les Paul and his trio as well as with the Little Orchestra Society at Avery Fisher Hall.

Make no mistake about it, Steve "The Whistler" Herbst is serious about his whistling. So serious that he refuses to share the name of the brand of "secret" lip balm he uses to protect his lips from chapping or drying.

"Lip balm is essential to [herb] protection," Herbst told GO Brooklyn in a recent phone interview. "It isn't just for skiers."

On this particular afternoon, in which the temperature barely reached 21 degrees Fahrenheit, Herbst took extra precautions while walking his dogs and visiting the doctor—using lip balm and zipping the collar of his parka up to his nose.

"Without my lips, I'm out of business," asked Herbst. Although he enjoys Chinese food, he has to watch



Pucker up: Steve "The Whistler" Herbst's recordings have even prompted parrots to sing along. His new album of whistled show tunes (inset) is "Broadway and Beyond."

degree of spiciness with which it is made. Herbst recalled one occasion when he indulged in too much extra-spicy food, causing his lips to numb. Herbst says that he then had to use lots of cold water to revive them.

MUSIC

"Broadway and Beyond" by Steve "The Whistler" Herbst is available for \$17. For more information about his upcoming performances, and how to purchase his music, visit www.stevethewhistler.com.

"I learned that it's not good to go near spicy food when I have to perform," Herbst said. So Herbst monitors everything he does, including his hobbies. Although he is a black belt in Tae Kwon do, he tries his best to avoid physical contact. Instead he works on

perfecting his form and practicing self defense to avoid touching others. After all, a blow to the face could set his whistling schedule back for days.

Herbst is also very serious about his whistling as an art form. He doesn't joke about it, except for an improvisational one-liner or two during a performance.

"If it's a 45-minute concert, I'll have a bottle of water on stage," Herbst said. "When necessary, I'll pause between songs for a sip of water, informing the audience, 'You'll have to excuse me while I wet my whistle,'" he said with a chuckle.

But whistling is a serious business for Herbst. In the past couple of years, he has worked on commercials for Rockaway Bedding, Verizon DSL, and Eight O'Clock Coffee.

can often be cacophonous." He does, however, have a list of musicians and orchestras with whom he'd like to perform including Bobby McFerrin ("Don't Worry, Be Happy"), the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Mandy Patinkin, Linda Eder, Carly Simon and the New York Philharmonic.

Like the aforementioned performers, Herbst's musicianship has garnered him several awards. At the 2002 International Whistlers Competition in Lousburg, N.C. (at the International Whistlers Museum, of course), Herbst won the International Grand Champion award in the adult male category. In both 2003 and 2004, Herbst won the International Whistling Entertainer of the Year award.

Part of Herbst's success stems from his artistic family. Before he died, Herbst's father painted, sculpted, sang and played many instruments. Herbst says that his brother David mastered 10 instruments by high school. Although his father whistled on car rides, no other family member mastered it quite like Herbst.

Without even realizing it, those early days with "Peter and the Wolf" helped him to develop sonorities and today he proudly boasts that he can whistle in a three-octave range.

In this range, Herbst whistles rhythm and blues, Irish, Italian, classical, jazz, and Broadway show tunes throughout the United States as well as in local venues like the Iridium jazz club in Manhattan, the Cotton Club in Harlem, and Galapagos in Williamsburg.

"I like to perform songs that stand the test of time," Herbst said.

Some of his favorites include George Gershwin's "Summertime" from the opera "Porgy and Bess" and Claude Debussy's "Clair de lune." This past March, Herbst performed his "signature" tune, "Oh Danny Boy," at a special St. Patrick's Day parade breakfast for Gov. George Pataki and other guests.

On a regular basis, Herbst makes phone calls, schedules performances, promotes his whistling, and sometimes coaches aspiring whistlers. He also answers fan mail.

"People ask for advice and I encourage them to keep practicing," Herbst said. He has many admirers that share his passion for whistling and seek some inspiration of their own in a world where whistling has slipped away from the spotlight. Some have purchased his CD, "Broadway and Beyond," for gifts, while others for personal enjoyment—parrots included.

"One woman told me that before she touches the play button on her CD player, her parrot leads in on song," Herbst said. "Another fan has a parrot that now whistles 'Maria' from 'West Side Story' when she comes home."

According to Herbst, his CDs were even carried by two Manhattan bird shops. (He does not, however, perform with parrots.)

While Polly might want a cracker, Herbst does not. When asked if he's ever attempted a dandelion stunt such as eating crackers and attempting to whistle, he scoffed at an interviewer's lack of understanding and compassion for the art.

"I avoid anything that will interfere with my whistling," Herbst said.

Whistling became Herbst's full-time profession less than a year ago, when he retired from a 35-year career in advertising. His only goal now is to fully embrace his art. "I'm always doing it for my own fun and gratification," Herbst said. "I haven't lost the pleasure in it for the last 50 years."

From the sound of it, he never will.

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THE BROOKLYN PAPERS

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January 8, 2005

Eating pretty

Union Pacific alum opens sexy new French restaurant on Atlantic Avenue

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

A new French bistro has opened in the former Brooklyn Grill space on Atlantic Avenue. Before you give the jaded "what-else-is-new?" eye roll, consider this: Jolie has a true Gallic menu with escargot, steak tartare and crepes suzette. Additionally, most of the bottles on Jolie's short, well-chosen wine list fall in the \$20 to \$40 range with several excellent choices by the glass.

But what differentiates Jolie from the others on the block is the setting. Jolie, which is French for "pretty," embraces all things feminine. Around the ochre-colored marble bar, young "jolie" sip cocktails nipped in their honor — Nancy Li, Magda and Barbie are a few, and of course, there's Gigi — a warm drink of Calvados after brandy, honey, lemon and cloves. The walls in the dining room are the color of candlelight. Diners sit upon garnet-suede banquettes beneath the glow of modern hanging lamps. With a backdrop like that, everyone looks as sexy as the babes high-kicking in the vintage "Folies Bergeres" poster on the wall.

Benjamin Treout, who managed Rocco DiSpirito's Union Pacific in Manhattan, owns the bistro with Michel Pombet, the former executive chef at DeMarchelier. The two have a "Mutt and Jeff" quality. Treout, ele-

DINING

Jolie Restaurant (320 Atlantic Ave. between Hoyt and Smith streets in Boerum Hill) accepts American Express. Entrees: \$16-\$20. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner daily. Saturdays and Sundays brunch is served from 11:30 am to 4 pm. For reservations, call (718) 688-0771.

gant and effortlessly charming, works the room; Pombet, rounder and older, pops out now and then to peer at diners' plates, then clomps back to the kitchen.

Out of that kitchen come the kind of French bistro classics that seem particularly apt as winter's chill sets in: mechin greens with goat cheese smeared on toast points; hearty vegetable soup; and mushrooms stuffed with snails.

An oxtail terrine, with chewy nuggets of the deeply flavored meat embedded in fragrant jelly, resembled slices of marble. A compote of sweet onions and sharp celeriac (tiny gherkin pickles) added contrast.

Pombet's celery remoulade is coleslaw's fancy cousin; the slivers of the vegetable are dressed in tangy mayonnaise made sharp with mustard.

There are two steaks on the menu (either as you crave the tartare), a hanger steak with sautéed shallots and mashed potatoes and the rib eye with

bearnaise sauce and fries. We tried the rib eye, a good choice if you like steak deeply flavored with a little fat. The bœurnaise was properly dense but needed a bit more vinegar to offset the meat. Thin, crisp fries weren't bad at first, but lost flavor after a few minutes on the plate.

Pombet turns out a special bouillabaisse that is heady with saffron and is everything a bouillabaisse should be. The stew is served in a deep bowl filled with huge, silky sea scallops, a big mound of monkfish that absorbed the briny broth, and a few perfectly tender mussels and clams in the shell. A saucer of russet-colored, garlicky paste (called rouille) and crisp slices of toasted French bread accompany the dish. A bit of that bread smeared with the rouille, then dipped into the thick stew, is the best Christmas gift you'll get in 2005.

While Jolie's list of desserts are as traditional as the rest of the menu, that doesn't mean they lack in excitement. If a waiter set fire to a few years ago, diners would not scream for the door or greet the sight as a silly affection from yesterday.

How we've changed. When two desserts were lit at our table, it was met with an intake of breath and a smattering of applause from the crowd. The menu also includes crepes suzette and a special of sliced bananas broiled in rum.



Ooh la la: At Jolie Restaurant on Atlantic Avenue, Chef Michel Pombet serves (foreground) pan-seared codfilet Provencal with julienne vegetables and (background) sweetbread champagne with sautéed spinach and potatoes.

The delicate crepes were overwhelmed by too-sweet sauce and the bananas needed a partner — maybe ice cream or a cookie — to feed comple. The tart Tatin, with overcooked apples and a soggy crust, was just so-so.

Your waiter, who worked a long

shift, said to my dining companion and I in a thick French accent, "I'm a little jealous of you two. You are enjoying yourself. Eating slowly. Talking. That's the way it should be."

We agreed. When in Jolie, we do as the French do.

Bottoms up

With the recent success of the movie "Sideways," about two men gallivanting through California's wine country, it seems everyone's a wine lover. If you're not ready for a glass of pinot noir, schedule a visit to W Restaurant — yes, the W is for wine — on Ocean Avenue in Sheepshead Bay.

According to owner Igor Shpol, the interior is designed to resemble an Old World wine cellar. The main dining room is furnished with French antiques, and the walls are covered floor-to-ceiling with racks holding bottles from the 450 varieties of international brands in the custom wine cellar downstairs.

To accompany great wine, it's natural to offer quality meat and seafood. Chef Joseph Kumore and Yanto Gungun grill big portions of sirloin,

rib eye, T-bone and porterhouse, all aged 30 days. Shpol, who opened the restaurant in November, says, "Our chefs offer a fusion of French, Austrian, Japanese and Middle Eastern cuisines."

That means your sirloin is rubbed with Caribbean spices, and if your rib eye needs a spark, there's a dish of thick potato wedges to eat it. W's menu also offers a trio of tartar appetizers — salmon, tuna and yellowtail (pictured) — as well as a selection of fish entrees. Desserts are made at Manhattan's famed Payard patisseries.

W Restaurant (2812 Ocean Ave. at Avenue X) accepts Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Entrees: \$19-\$43. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner daily. For reservations, call (718) 769-2222.

Tina Barry

Where to

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal

SAT, JAN 8

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

TREE RECYCLING: Turn your tree into mulch by recycling. 10 am to noon. Free. 1000 Avenue C, Third Street entrance. (718) 832-8227.

ICE SKATING: Wellman rink is open. \$5 adults, \$3 children and seniors. Skate rentals for \$5. 10 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 6 pm. Enter Prospect Park at 10th and Ocean avenues. (718) 287-5252.

PERFORMANCE

ARTS AT ST. ANN'S: presents Under the Radar, a festival featuring new theater. Cynthia Hopkins' "Accidental Nostalgia: On the Pros and Cons of America." Other works: 2 pm to 10 pm. \$15, \$25, \$35. 400 Westchester, 38 Water St. (718) 254-8779.

FIRST WEEKEND: Brooklyn Exchange presents a trio of female choreographers. Discussion follows performance. \$15, \$10 members, \$8 low-income. 8 pm. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-0016.

CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn Philharmonic presents "Music Off the Streets," a series featuring Brooklyn composers of Hollywood film scores. 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Bay Ridge Branch, 7223 Ridge Boulevard. Another performance at 4 pm in Brooklyn Public Library, Central Branch, Grand Army Plaza. (718) 688-5777. Free.

BROOKLYN LYCEUM: Dance Theater Workshop presents "Taxes Catto and Company's 'Reason,'" a site-based dance installation. Members of the audience will be separated from their companions and corralled into four viewing pens. \$20, 7 pm and 9 pm. 272 Fourth Ave. (718) 924-0077.

VIDEO SCREENING: Wadsworth celebrates the 25th anniversary of their Micro Museum and presents "Micrology" and "The Crystal Box." \$10 includes refreshments. 8:30 pm. 123 Smith St. (718) 797-3116.

CHILDREN

WRITING WORKSHOP: Barnes and Noble invites kids to a story time and demonstration. 2 pm. 267 Seventh Ave. (718) 832-9066. Free.

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BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: hosts a family lunch for families, yoga, bilingual and transgender theater and their friends. \$5, 6 pm to 8 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

OTHER

YOGA: Students are invited to learn how to deepen their yoga practice and to broaden their understanding of yoga. Eight weeks. \$12 or \$16 drop-in rate. 1:15 to 2:45 pm. South Oxford Street, 138 South Oxford St. (718) 667-7315. Free.

SUN, JAN 9

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

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MON, JAN 10

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

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TUE, JAN 11

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

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WED, JAN 12

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

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THURS, JAN 13

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BROOKLYN Nightlife

The Backroom

(Inside Freddy's Bar) 485 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 625-7005, www.freddysbackroom.com

Jan. 8: Rachel Kennerbush, 9:30 pm, Gown, Corn, 10:30 pm, Paranoid Larry, 11:30 pm, FREE; Jan. 9: Go! Away Party for bartender Tim Cony, 4 pm, Colin McInerney, 7 pm, FREE; Jan. 11: Ernest Anderson Trio, 9:30 pm, STBD; Jan. 12: P.O. Quix with Roger Pae, 9:30 pm, FREE; Jan. 13: Mike Moccia Quartet, 9:30 pm, FREE; Jan. 14: Baggie, 9:30 pm, Joe Bessie, 10:30 pm, The Bitter Root, 11:30 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: AI Dval, 9:30 pm, FREE.

BAM Cafe

30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 634-4100, www.bam.org
Jan. 8: Jabez, 9:30 pm, \$10 food/drink minimum; Jan. 14: Gordon Chambers, 9 pm, \$10 food/drink minimum; Jan. 15: Alex Fort, 9:30 pm, \$10 food/drink minimum.

Bar Below

(Below Fann Restaurant) 209 Smith St. at Baltic Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 494-2277
Jan. 12: Suburban Sals, 9 pm, FREE (includes admission and dance class).

Barbes

376 North St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-7177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com

Mondays: Les Buisson de Notre, 9:30 pm, FREE; Tuesdays: Jenny Scheinman, 7 pm, FREE; Stage: Soul Party, 9 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: Night of the Ratched Lincs, 9 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Stephanie Weinberg, 9 pm, FREE; Jan. 8: Greta Gerler and The Escorts, 8 pm, Howard Fishman, 10 pm, FREE; Jan. 9: Peter Fessinger, 9 pm, FREE; Jan. 10: Peter Fessinger, 9 pm, FREE; Jan. 11: Michael Basset Outside Sources, 8 pm, Hasselberg/Mannen/Moran, 10 pm, \$8; Jan. 12: The Villi-Holmes, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 13: The Villi-Holmes, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 14: Oscar Noriega & Chris Speed (clarinet duo), 7 pm, Postulated, 10 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: Russell Scholl, 8 pm, The 4th Street Network, 10 pm, FREE.

Bembe

115 South St. at Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-5389

Saturdays: DJ Nova, DJ Mok E and DJ Joy Ride spin alongside live Latin percussion flairs, 9 pm, FREE; Sundays: "Universal Rhythms," 9 pm, FREE; Mondays: "Cold Hard," with DJ Dilligole, 9 pm, FREE; Tuesdays: "Tough" with DJ Nat, 9 pm, FREE; Fridays: "Call to Drum," worst beat flairs, 9 pm, FREE.

Black Betty

364 Metropolitan Ave. at Havermyer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 599-0243, www.black-betty.net

Saturdays: DJ Li' Shanahan, 11 pm, FREE; Sundays: Brazilian Beat with DJ Sean Marquand and DJ Greg Cox, 10 pm, FREE; Mondays: Rev. Vince Anderson and His Love Choir, 10 pm, FREE; Tuesdays: Hot Rocks sponsored by Miller High Lite, 10 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: Electric Gravity, a Balkan dance party, with DJ Shoter, 9 pm, FREE; Thursdays: The Greenhouse with DJ Monique and DJ Enkles, 11 pm, FREE; Fridays: DJ Mihoko, 11 pm, FREE.

Bluestone Bar and Grill

117 Columbia St. at Kane Street in Columbia Street Waterfront District, (718) 400-7450
Jan. 8: Renaissance, 10 pm, FREE.

Chocolate Monkey

329 Flatbush Ave. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 813-1073

Saturdays: Express a.k.a. Open Mic Poetry talent showcase, 8 pm, \$7; Soy Luscious Party with DJ Oxy Fresh spinning house, classic and new grooves, 11 pm, FREE; Sundays: "Krazy Nanny Sundays" with DJ Ozzy and karaoke with Lisa Love, 8 pm, FREE before 9 pm, \$3 after 9 pm; Tuesdays: "Weekdays After Work" party, 5 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: "Neo-Soul" hosted by Black Wax Records, 7 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Host Terry Bell featuring DJ Ras, live music and karaoke, 8 pm, FREE; Fridays: "Rappa After Work" with live DJ, 5 pm, FREE; Live music and DJ, 7 pm, \$5.

Cornerstone Bar

1532 Coney Island Road at Marlborough Road in Flatbush, (718) 960-9027

Tuesdays: Open mic, 8 pm, FREE.

Crossroads Saloon

2079 Coney Island Ave. at Kings Highway in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 399-9993

Fridays and Saturdays: Karaoke, 9 pm, FREE.

Europa Night Club

68 Moser Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 383-5723, www.europaclub.com

Saturdays: "Saturday VIP," 9 pm, FREE before 10 pm, \$15 after 10 pm; Fridays: Progressive/Dance party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, \$15 after 10:30 pm; Jan. 8: John Fischer's "NITE@Raz," 8 pm, \$10 (students FREE before 7:30 pm with valid ID).

Frank's Lounge

60 Fulton St. at South Street Place in Fort Greene, (718) 625-9339, www.frankscloak-tailor.com

Saturdays: Soul Saturdays with DJs Tyrone and Infinite, 9 pm, \$5; Sundays: Live Jazz, 9 pm, \$5; Mondays: Madhouse Comedy, 9 pm, \$5 with 2-drink minimum; Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Live, 9 pm, FREE with 2-drink minimum; Wednesdays: Karaoke with Dany B, 9 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Lonnie Youngblood & The Blood Brothers, 8 pm, FREE; Fridays: Flan Dance Party, 10 pm, \$5.

free103point9 Gallery

97 S. Sixth St. at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg, 2nd floor, (718) 599-5955, www.free103point9.org

Jan. 15: Aukstika, Growing, Helldolls and more, 8 pm, \$5.

Galapagos

70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782-5188, www.galapagos-space.com

Sundays: Soul and Buddy Karaoke, 10 pm, FREE; Mondays: Monday Evening Barbecue, 8 pm, \$5; Tuesdays: "Tassil Twirling Fun," 10 pm, FREE; Tuesdays: New Rock Weekly, 9 pm, \$5; Fridays: Galapagos Floating Vodka, 10 pm, FREE; Jan. 8: Taylor Mac, 7 pm, FREE; Jan. 9: The Villi-Holmes, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 10: Roy Racer of Madison Sings, 11 pm, FREE; Jan. 11: 801 presents Ben Burlesque, 9 pm, FREE; Jan. 12: Gilgus Stump! And The Professor, 8 pm, FREE; Jan. 13: The Villi-Holmes, 8 pm, FREE; Jan. 14: The Villi-Holmes, 8 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: Russell Scholl, 8 pm, The 4th Street Network, 10 pm, FREE.

Jazz 966

966 Fulton St. at Cambridge Place in Fort Greene, (718) 782-5188, www.jazz966.com

Jan. 14: 966's Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration with guest performer TBO, 8 pm, \$10 suggested donation.

JRC Fashion Cafe

71 Flatbush Ave. at Atlantic Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 399-7079

Fridays and Saturdays: Live DJ, 11 pm, \$10 (for 10:30 pm); Mondays: "Mardi Gras and Mojito Mondays" with DJ Nuff Said, 5 pm, FREE; Tuesdays: "Tough" with DJ Nat, 9 pm, FREE; Fridays: "Call to Drum," worst beat flairs, 9 pm, FREE.

Kill Bar-Cafe

811 Fulton St. at South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 782-5188

Tuesdays: Open Acoustics, 9 pm, FREE; Fridays: "Tough" with DJ Nat, 9 pm, FREE; Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; Sundays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; Fridays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE.

Laila Lounge

113 N. Seventh St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5791, www.lailalounge.com

Sundays: Jazz Jam Session, 9 pm, FREE; Jan. 8: (Downstairs) Subway Sings, 11 pm, Let Get Friendly Barbecue, 12:30 am, \$5; (Upstairs) Future Shock, 12:30 am, \$5; Jan. 9: VADJ Friday Nights, 10 pm, FREE; Jan. 10: Lorraine Leake, Jesse H. Christ and the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, James Polls Band, 7 pm, \$5; Kill Harry Sugar, Boy With a Gun, 10 pm, FREE.

Le Dakar Restaurant

285 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 782-5188, www.le-dakar.com

Fridays and Saturdays: Belly dance performances, 10 pm, FREE.

Les Babouches

7803 Third Ave. at 78th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-1700

Fridays and Saturdays: Belly dance performances, 10 pm, FREE.

Liberty Heights Tap Room

34 Van Dyke St. at Dwight Street in Red Hook, (718) 244-8080

Tuesdays: Open mic, 8:30 pm, FREE.

Life Cafe 983

983 Flatbush Ave. at Central Avenue in Bushwick, (718) 388-1123, www.life-cafe.com

Tuesdays: Bingo for Beer, 8 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: Open mic with Chuck, 10 pm, FREE.

Lillie's Bar

44 Bead St. at Dwight Street in Red Hook, (718) 858-9822

Wednesdays: Ribs night with live music and open mic, 8 pm, \$5 (includes all-you-can-eat ribs).

LOW Bar

(Below Rice restaurant) 81 Washington St. at York Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-1200

Jan. 8: Benefit for UNICEF (humanitarian), 9 pm, \$40 (includes open bar and food until midnight).

The Lucky Cat

1505 Grand Ave. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782-0437, www.theluckycat.com

Mondays: Chess club, 8 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: Live DJ with DJ Nuff Said, 5 pm, FREE; Fridays: "Futurefunk Sessions" with DJ

The LuLu Lounge

(Under Tuck) 134 N. Sixth St. at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782-5188, www.lululounge.com

Sundays: Jose Luis Martinez Trio, 7 pm, FREE; Wednesdays: "Random Ass Stand-Up," 8 pm, \$6 (includes live drink); Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays: "Karaoke Nights," 8 pm, FREE.

Magnetic Field

97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 834-0069, www.magneticfield.org

Jan. 8: The Marinetti, The Plungers, 7:30 pm, FREE; Jan. 14: "Stake!" with Karaoke, 8 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: The Brought Low, The Spottions, 7:30 pm, Rock 'n' Roll Dragstone, 10 pm, FREE.

M Shanghai Bistro & Den

129 Havermyer St. at Grand Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-9000

Fridays and Saturdays: Monthly DJ parties, 10 pm, FREE; Sundays: High-kick Karaoke with Dynamic Damien and DJ Harry Balz, 10 pm, FREE.

National Restaurant

223 Brighton Beach Ave. at Brighton Second Street in Brighton Beach, (718) 446-5554, www.national.com

Saturdays: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with \$45 per five dinner); Sundays: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with \$45 per five dinner).

Night of the Cookers

767 Fulton St. at South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 782-5188

Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; Sundays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; Fridays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE.

Northrix

66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-5100, www.northrix.com

Jan. 12: (Downstairs) Walk Humongous, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 13: The Eames Era, Harry Goldstein, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 14: The Eames Era, Harry Goldstein, 8 pm, \$8; Jan. 15: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE.

OfficeOps

57 Thomas St. at Morgan Avenue, 2nd floor, in Williamsburg, (718) 418-2509, www.officeops.com

Jan. 14: Rock 'n' Rollerz, 9 pm, \$5 (includes skate rental, 10 pm, \$5).

Parlor Jazz

119 Vanderbilt Ave. at Myrtle Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 855-1901, www.parlorjazz.com

Jan. 15: The Danny Moon Trio, 9 pm, \$20 donation.

Peggy O'Neills

(Two locations) 8123 81st Ave. at 81st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 748-1400, www.peggyoneills.com

Sundays: NFL Party, 1 pm, \$25 (includes open bar and food); Mondays: Karaoke with DJ Rick, 10 pm, FREE; Fridays: DJ Richie, 10 pm, FREE.

Waterfront Ale House

155 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street in Park Slope, (718) 522-7294, www.waterfrontalehouse.com

Jan. 8: Fintan O'Neill Quartet, 11 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: Paul Sullivan Quartet, 11 pm, FREE.

Williamsburg Music Center

34 Bedford Ave. at 3rd Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-1654

Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, \$5; Fridays: Live blues, 10 pm, \$5.

Talk to Us...

To list your events in Brooklyn Nightlife, please give us as much notice as possible. Include name, venue, address, with cross street, phone number, and the date, Web site address, if available, and admission or ticket prices. Send listings and color photos of performers via e-mail to Nightlife@brooklynpapers.com or by fax to 718-392-7101. We will edit and free print on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

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FREE; Jan. 12: Verona Doors, 10 pm, FREE; Jan. 13: Caroline Guide, 9 pm, Fancy Trash, 10 pm, Avamar, 11 pm, FREE; Jan. 14: Woyos, 9 pm, Robert Delfino, 10 pm, Uva Minor, 11 pm, FREE; Jan. 15: Sea Fries, 9 pm, Cassia (from B-Blush), 10 pm, FREE.

Samba Restaurant

9604 Third Ave. at 96th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 439-0475

Brooklyn Papers PARENT

Picture perfect kids

Q: Picture-taking has turned into a major power play with my 7-year-old granddaughter.

A: Share the power, and the camera.

Observed one teenager working at a Santa photo house over the holiday break: "Parents think their will is stronger than the will of their kids. But they're wrong."

With photos, children have just one more way to push their parents' buttons. And with all the directions that come along with family picture sessions—"get closer together, be still, say cheese"—it's no surprise that kids refuse to cooperate.

"Even if a child is just not smiling right, moms will get stressed out, and that makes it worse," says Janice Miller, a photographer.

Instead of stressing, try to make photos fun, she says. With elementary-school age children, tell silly jokes to distract them to get a natural-looking smile.

"They forget to be self-conscious," says Miller, who has three children 10 and under.

"Also, let them take a few photos themselves to involve them in the process," she suggests. "With a digital camera, you can delete pictures, and you don't have to spend 36 cents each time the child takes a picture."

If you're running into resistance with your own photo, ask yourself: Am I a compulsive shutterbug? If so, lighten up and back away.

Other ideas from parents:

- Give your child her own scrapbook, and help her send snapshots to friends and family via e-mail or post pictures on a closed family Web site. Cameras with tiny "sticker" film are also fun.

- Kids love looking at old pictures of their family members and of themselves as babies. Get out old photo albums to inspire more cooperation.
- Let your child take pictures at family gatherings. She'll feel like a participant instead of a spectator. If the spirit is "you take my picture and I'll take yours," you can expect better results.

- Use a zoom lens, not to deceive but to keep from disrupting your child's train of thought or impeding the flow of an activity she's engaged in.
- Before a formal portrait, try to be sure your child has been fed and isn't tired. Otherwise she'll be going into a tense situation already stressed out.

Many children refuse to cooperate to get more attention, and they go through face-making stages. Ignoring stretched-out lips and turned-up noses is the best bet. Find other ways to give positive attention.

One resource is the book "Capture Your Kids in Pictures" (Amphoto Books, 2004) by photographer Jay Fernan of Atlanta, Ga. For best results, shoot photos in everyday, unposed settings, he suggests.

Fernan's book covers simple techniques to use with a 35 mm camera and a basic flash or sunlight.

Tips from Kodak on how to take keepsake pictures:

- If you insist on a posed picture, set up ahead of time. Don't make your child sit and wait until you're ready to shoot.
- Don't just photograph your children and grandchildren on holidays and birthdays. Make pictures a part of your everyday life.

- Shoot at eye level. Try sitting on the ground and snapping some photos from the child's perspective. Expressions will look more natural, and your flash photos will be more even-ly lit. Your subject need not always stare at the camera even though you're at eye level.

- Step in close or use your camera's zoom to emphasize what's important. Check the manual for your camera's closest focusing distance, which is about three feet for most cameras. But don't get too close or your pictures will be blurry.

Parent-to-Parent

By Betsy Flieger

To match up with your best photos, make a New Year's resolution to jot down the fun-

ny things your kids say. Then you'll have the memories and the makings for a scrapbook to treasure for a lifetime.

If you have tips or a question, call any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

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SHIRLEY...

Continued from page 1

coast about a dozen years ago because friends from New York lived there, and "the older she got, she hated the cold weather," Kimmons said.

Still, Chisholm remains identified with Brooklyn, where she was born in the predominantly black Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood, and where she graduated from Girls High School in 1942.

Although she was offered scholarships to Vassar and Oberlin colleges, she chose to attend Brooklyn College, majoring in sociology and graduating cum laude in 1946. She was known as a star debater with a riveting voice at Brooklyn College.

Shirley Chisholm exemplified the best of Brooklyn College," said the CUNY school's president, Christoph Kimmich. "She spent her life dedicated to community involvement and bettering the lives of all Americans. Her loss marks the end of an era in Brooklyn, but her example and her legacy will live on for generations to come."

Chisholm was elected to the U.S. House in 1968 — the first black woman elected to Congress — and served until the early 1980s. A champion for child care, she served on the Education and Labor Committee and helped found the Congressional Black Caucus in 1969.

The caucus' current chairman, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., said Chisholm was a trailblazer who "exemplified servant leadership."

"Congresswoman Chisholm was a pioneer in public service who, through courage and wisdom, brought honesty and integrity to the legislative process," Cummings said.

Chisholm ran for president in 1972 — her slogan was "Unbought and Unbossed!" — but lost the Democratic nomination to George McGovern, who later lost the presidency to incumbent Richard Nixon.

Chisholm later said she mounted her campaign to bring about change. During the campaign, Chisholm went to the hospital to visit George Wallace, who was also running, after he had been shot — an act that drew a storm of criticism from her supporters because of Wallace's segregationist beliefs.

Beverly Guy-Sheffall, director of the Women's Research and Resource Center at Spelman College in Atlanta, said the meeting was an indication of Chisholm's political independence.

"It was a manifestation of her belief that it was possible for people to change," Guy-Sheffall said. "Even someone like George Wallace didn't need to be written off. And of course we now see that she was right."

In his final years, Wallace asked for forgiveness from blacks and said he should not be remembered for his segregationist stand alone.

Among the many admirers offering praise for Chisholm on Monday were women members of Congress, some of whom said they owed their careers to her and still considered her a role model.

"Shirley Chisholm was a model of courage and conviction," said Brooklyn congressman Rep. Jerrold Nadler. "As an educator, an activist, and an elected representative, she worked tirelessly on behalf of women and minorities at a critical juncture in our nation's history. Her groundbreaking work and thoughtful service will be an inspiration for generations to come, and she will be sorely missed."

After Congress, Chisholm occasionally gave speeches at local colleges, and she served as a consultant to a Daytona Beach community relations council, but she avoided politics in Florida, despite urging from her friends to get more involved.

"She was disillusioned with the lack of progress on race relations," said Sheila Lynch, director of "Chisholm '72: Unbought and Unbossed," a documentary on her presidential campaign. "Why I was attracted to her story was because in some ways she's an average American woman who evolved into a strong and courageous politician."

The documentary is scheduled to air on PBS' "POV" series on Monday, Feb. 7, at 10 p.m.

President Bush, speaking to newly elected members of Congress at a White House reception Monday afternoon, said he was saddened to learn of Chisholm's passing.

"She was a fine lady, a pioneer in education and public service and the first African-American woman elected to

the Congress," the president said.

Former President Bill Clinton also expressed sadness and praised Chisholm's legacy.

"One of her books was titled, 'The Good Fight,'" he said in a statement. "She fought the good fight throughout her life. She kept the faith. Now she has finished her course."

Funeral arrangements were still being worked out, but a service in Florida likely would be held on Saturday, the family said.

—with The Brooklyn Papers



I give up!

Despite unseasonably warm weather (the temperature hit 60 degrees on New Year's Day), P.J. Fenster wears a warm raccoon hat while he and fellow Polar Bears take their annual dip in the Atlantic Ocean off Coney Island beach on Saturday.

Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn's REAL newspapers

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